



**ENGINEERING OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 1, 1995, 9:00 A.M.
EXECUTIVE CONFERENCE ROOM**

Present:	R. A. Welke	C. J. Arnold	R. E. Maki
	G. D. Taylor	L. A. Kinney	P. F. Miller
	L. R. Brown	D. T. VandenBerg	J. D. O'Doherty
	C. Roberts	T. A. Fort (FHWA)	D. L. Smiley (J.W. Reincke)

Guests: W. C. Turner

OLD BUSINESS

1. Approval of the Minutes of the May 4, 1995, Meeting - R. Welke

Minutes of the May 4, 1995, meeting were approved as written.

2. Guardrail Endings - R. Maki

An update was provided on the status of activities that address the requirements set forth by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) regarding blunt-end guardrail terminals on the National Highway System (NHS). The department is required by FHWA to remove certain guardrail endings by pre-established deadlines on the NHS having greater than 6,000 ADT, and greater than or equal to 50 mph speeds. Specifically, we have to address and meet the following deadlines:

- A. No new installation of BCT terminals are allowed on the NHS after December 31, 1995. This includes all installations to be put in by contractors after the deadline date, even though the projects were let to contract prior to 1996.
- B. Replacement of all blunt-end terminals by September 29, 1996, on the NHS.
- C. Any unconnected bridge-approach guardrail on the NHS should be connected by September 29, 1997.
- D. The FHWA has requested that the department inventory the NHS (ADT >6,000 and speed \geq 50 mph) to identify all blunt-ends and unattached bridge approach guardrail connections and develop an action plan for correction by June 29, 1995.

ACTION: Report was approved as presented. The Traffic and Safety Division, in conjunction with the Engineering Services and Maintenance Divisions, will develop a work plan with required funding and will make a presentation of the report submitted to FHWA at the July 1995 EOC meeting.

3. Follow-up to Life-Cycle Costing/Users' Cost - B. Turner

A detailed discussion was held of the draft document prepared to address users costs as part of the pavement selection process. The draft document will be revised to incorporate comments presented. In addition, as part of the review process, input will be solicited from the district engineers and the construction industry (MCPA, MAPA, MRBA).

4. Operating Instruction 3000.01 (Engineering Operations Committee) - C. Roberts

A lengthy discussion by the committee lead to several comments and suggestions for revisions. Committee members will review and submit their revisions to Cal Roberts. A revised draft of the document will be discussed at the scheduled July 1995 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Research Centers of Excellence - R. Maki/J. Reincke

The subject was discussed at length with several issues raised regarding the consistency of an operating procedure for all Research Centers of Excellence. The issues will be reviewed and recommendations are to be presented to ensure that all research conducted by the centers provides for the best return on investments, in the most cost-effective and timely way, that benefits the department.

ACTION: Jon Reincke and Bob Maki will write a description of the selection/approval process for making project selection from shortlisting Problem Statements, as they pertain to Research Focus Areas.

(Signed copy on file at M&T)

Calvin Roberts, Secretary

cc: EOC Members
District Engineers
G. H. Grove G. J. McCarthy L. K. Heinig T. Adams
E. D. Winkler D. L. Coleman W. C. Turner D. L. Smiley
L. W. Martin J. Becsey R. W. Muller R. E. Nordlund
L. E. DeFrain G. L. Mitchell G. J. Bukoski C. W. Whiteside
I. B. Patel R. D. Till M. Newman A. G. Ostensen
J. Kelsch